

Contents	5
Acknowledgements	9
Chapter 1 Introduction	
Muslims ritualising death in a small town migration context in the Netherlands	11
1.1 Ritualising death: research problem, research context and sources	11
1.1.1 Research problem	13
1.1.2 Research context	14
1.1.3 Sources	17
1.2 Theoretical approaches, research questions and methods	18
1.2.1 Theoretical approaches: key concepts	18
1.2.1.1 Ritual practice	19
1.2.1.2 Ritual context: migration	21
1.2.1.3 Ritual content: meaning	23
1.3 Research questions and research aim	25
1.3.1 Research questions	25
1.3.2 Research aim	26
1.4 Triangulation of methods and sources	27
1.5 Overview	29
Chapter 2 Ritual elements	
Mapping the ritual cleansing and shrouding of the deceased	31
2.1 Ritual elements: creating an interpretive framework	32
2.1.1 Applying the key concepts	33
2.1.1.1 Ritual practice	33
2.1.1.2 Ritual context: migration	33
2.1.1.3 Ritual content: meaning	33
2.2 Mapping ritual elements	34
2.2.1 Actions	34
2.2.2 Actors	37
2.2.3 Sources	39

2.2.4	Attitudes, beliefs, emotions	41
2.2.5	Place	44
2.2.6	Time	46
2.2.7	Objects	47
2.2.8	Languages, sounds	47
2.2.9	Senses	48
2.2.10	Comments, criticism	48
2.2.11	Mapping ritual elements: a summary	49
2.3	Conclusion	51
2.3.1	Ritual practice	51
2.3.2	Ritual context: migration	51
2.3.3	Ritual content: meaning	52

Chapter 3 Ritual roles

Motivation and authority of ritual experts in a migration context 53

3.1	Ritual identity: reinventing the role of the ritual washer	53
3.1.1	Applying the key concepts	55
3.1.1.1	Ritual practice	55
3.1.1.2	Ritual context: migration	56
3.1.1.3	Ritual content: meaning	56
3.2	Ritual experts at work	56
3.3	Becoming a ritual expert: motivation and authority	62
3.3.1	Motivation	62
3.3.1.1	Personal	63
3.3.1.2	Interpersonal	63
3.3.1.3	Transpersonal	64
3.3.2	Authority	65
3.3.2.1	Personal	65
3.3.2.2	Interpersonal	65
3.3.2.3	Transpersonal	66
3.3.3	Motivation and authority: a summary	67
3.4	Conclusion	68
3.4.1	Ritual practice	68
3.4.2	Ritual context: migration	69
3.4.3	Ritual content: meaning	69

Chapter 4	Ritual beliefs	
	Lived eschatology, Muslim views of life and death	71
4.1	Introducing lived eschatology	71
4.1.1	Applying the key concepts	72
4.1.1.1	Ritual practice	72
4.1.1.2	Ritual context: migration	74
4.1.1.3	Ritual content: meaning	75
4.2	The grand eschatological narrative	76
4.3	Enacted eschatology	77
4.3.1	Before the funeral	78
4.3.1.1	Dying rites	78
4.3.1.2	Purification and shrouding of the deceased	80
4.3.1.3	The funeral prayer	81
4.3.2	At the grave	83
4.3.2.1	Funeral rites	84
4.3.2.2	Mourning rites	85
4.3.2.3	Grave visits	87
4.3.3	At the end of time	88
4.3.4	Enacted eschatology: a summary	90
4.4	Conclusion	92
4.4.1	Ritual practice	92
4.4.2	Ritual context: migration	93
4.4.3	Ritual content: meaning	93
Chapter 5	Ritual narratives	
	Re-imagining death rites in a small town context	95
5.1	Introducing a world of narratives	95
5.1.1	Applying the key concepts	97
5.1.1.1	Ritual practice	97
5.1.1.2	Ritual context: migration	97
5.1.1.3	Ritual content: meaning	98
5.2	Popular narratives in Venlo	98
5.3	Narrative themes on death rites in various media	101
5.3.1	News media	101
5.3.2	Books	103
5.3.3	Internet	104

5.4	Between two contexts: a process of re-imagination	106
5.4.1	Re-imagining death rites	107
5.5	Conclusion	108
5.5.1	Ritual practice	108
5.5.2	Ritual context: migration	109
5.5.3	Ritual content: meaning	109
Chapter 6	Conclusion	
	Muslims ritualising death in the Netherlands, negotiating death rites in a small town context	111
6.1	Research questions and outline of conclusion	111
6.2	Negotiating ritual in the face of death	113
6.3	Emerging Muslim ritual repertoires	117
6.4	Perspectives for further theoretical reflection	122
6.4.1	Negotiating ritual	123
6.4.2	Emerging ritual	124
Appendix I	Map of the Netherlands and Venlo	127
Appendix II	Perspectives on practice, guidelines for professionals	129
References		141
Nederlandse samenvatting		149
About the author		161